

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A contents conversion method in a contents conversion server, which is connected to a plurality of user terminals and a plurality of contents providing servers through a network, comprising:

receiving, from a certain user terminal of said plurality of user terminals, access destination information and information concerning a type of said certain user terminal or an access requesting source in said certain user terminal;

if said access destination information is interpreted to represent only said contents conversion server as an access destination, transmitting, to said certain user terminal, information including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to other registered contents providing servers; and

if said access destination information is interpreted to represent contents information in one of said plurality of said contents providing servers as an access destination, performing a conversion processing, and

wherein performing said conversion processing comprises:

acquiring contents information represented in said access destination information from said one of plurality of said contents providing servers;

by converting said contents information of an arbitrary format, based on said information concerning said type of said certain user terminal or said access requesting source in said certain user terminal, and by further converting link information included in said contents information in accordance with a predetermined rule if said contents information includes said link information, generating converted contents information; and

transmitting the converted contents information to said certain user terminal.

2-3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The contents conversion method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

if said access destination information is interpreted to represent only said contents conversion server as an access destination and a search condition for registered contents providing servers is received, searching registered contents providing servers matching with said search condition, and, transmitting, to said certain user terminal, information including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to said registered contents providing servers matching with said search condition.

5-6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A program embodied on a computer-readable medium causing a contents conversion server, which is connected to a plurality of user terminals and a plurality of contents providing servers through a network, to convert contents, said program comprising:

receiving from a certain user terminal of said plurality of user terminals, access destination information and information concerning a type of said certain user terminal or an access requesting source in said certain user terminal;

if said access destination information is interpreted to represent only said contents conversion server as an access destination, transmitting, to said certain user terminal, information including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to other registered contents providing servers; and

if said access destination information is interpreted to represent contents information in one of said plurality of said contents providing servers as an access destination, performing a conversion processing, and

wherein said performing said conversion processing comprises:

acquiring contents information represented in said access destination information from said one_of the plurality of said contents providing servers;

by converting said contents information of an arbitrary format, based on said information concerning said type of said certain user terminal or said access requesting source in said certain user terminal, and by further converting link information included in said contents information in accordance with a predetermined rule if said contents information includes said link information, generating converted contents information; and

transmitting the converted contents information to said certain user terminal.

8-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The program as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:
if said access destination information is interpreted to represent only said contents conversion server as an access destination and a search condition for registered contents providing servers is received, searching registered contents providing servers matching with said search condition; and

transmitting, to said certain user terminal, information including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to said registered contents providing servers matching with said search condition.

11-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A contents conversion server, which communicates with a plurality of user terminals and a plurality of contents providing servers through a network, comprising:

a unit that receives from a certain user terminal of said plurality of user terminals, access destination information and information concerning a type of said certain user terminal or an access requesting source in said certain user terminal; the unit responsive to access destination information interpreted to represent only said contents conversion server as an access destination, transmitting, to said certain user terminal, information including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to other registered contents providing servers;

a unit that acquires contents information represented in said access destination information from one of said plurality of said contents providing servers as an access destination, if said access destination information is interpreted to represent contents information in said one of the plurality of said contents providing servers;

a converter that converts said contents information of an arbitrary format, based on said information concerning said type of said certain user terminal or said access requesting source in said certain user terminal, and further converting link information included in said contents information in accordance with a predetermined rule if said contents information includes said link information, to generate converted contents information; and

a unit that transmits the converted contents information to said certain user terminal.

14-15. (currently amended)

16. (previously presented) The contents conversion server as set forth in claim 13, further comprising:

a unit that searches registered contents providing servers matching with a search condition if said access destination information is interpreted to represent only said contents conversion server as an access destination and said search condition for registered contents providing servers is received; and

a unit that transmits information including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to said registered contents providing servers matching with said search condition.

17-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A converted contents acquiring method executed by a user terminal, comprising:

transmitting at least one part of a uniform resource locator of a contents conversion server ~~contents information provider~~ and information concerning a type of the user terminal or an access requesting source in said user terminal to said ~~a~~ contents conversion server, which is connected to said user terminal and a plurality of contents providing servers through a network, to acquire contents information of an arbitrary format corresponding to a different type from said type of the user terminal or said access requesting source in said user terminal; and

receiving and displaying on a display device, ~~contents information~~ including link information causing access via said contents conversion server to other registered contents providing servers from said contents conversion server, ~~wherein a conversion corresponding to said type of said user terminal or said access requesting source of said user terminal is performed for said contents information and link information in said contents information is converted in accordance with a predetermined rule.~~

20. (canceled)